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BEDFORD

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

BEDFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of placing before you my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions prevailing in your district for the year 1940.

This Report is drawn up in accordance with the Ministry of Health's circular 1961, dated 16th February, 1940.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	112,590
Population—	
Census for 1931	22,204
Estimated for mid-year of 1940	26,080
Number of inhabited houses for 1940	7,629
Rateable value	£116,670
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£433

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are those of Agriculture and Market Gardening. A few leather dressing factories have been established for some years at Harrold and Odell.

Along the River Ouse there are some mills which are used for grinding corn and making flour.

At Wymington and Podington many of the inhabitants earn their living by working in the boot factories at Rushden.

The health of the District is good and there is no trade carried on which is prejudicial to public health.

At Stewartby, Marston, Ridgmont and at Kempston Hardwick, there are large brickmaking companies which absorb a good number of men from the southern portion of your district.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

I have come across no instance where unemployment has had any adverse influence on the health or physique of the children or adults.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	*M.*	*F.*	
Live Births	Legitimate ...	314	157	157	Birth Rate 12·7 per 1,000 of the resident population
	Illegitimate ...	18	8	10	
Still Births	Legitimate ...	15	9	6	Birth Rate 48·7 per 1,000 births (live and still)
	Illegitimate ...	2	1	1	
Deaths		354	176	178	

giving a Death Rate of 13·5 per 1,000 of the resident population. When this is multiplied by the Comparability Factor, it is reduced to 12·01.

Birth Rate for England and Wales is 14·6.

Death Rate for England and Wales is 14·3.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List.)

		Deaths	*Rate per* 1,000 (*live and still*) *Births*
No. 29	Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
No. 30	Other Puerperal Causes ...	0	0
	Total	0	

Maternal Mortality for England and Wales.

Puerperal Sepsis	·52	per 1,000 live and still births
Others	1·64	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
Total	2·16	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	42·1
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	44·5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	46
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	2

Causes of Death.

		M.	F.
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	0
3	Scarlet Fever	0	1
4	Whooping Cough	1	0
5	Diphtheria	0	2
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	4
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	0
8	Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
9	Influenza	6	8
10	Measles	0	0
11	Acute Polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis ...	0	0
12	Acute infective encephalitis	0	1
13	Cancer of b. cavity and œsophagus (M.) Uterus (F.)	5	2
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	4
15	Cancer of breast	0	3
16	Cancer of all other sites	13	17
17	Diabetes	2	1
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	17	18
19	Heart disease	40	44
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	13	9
21	Bronchitis	10	15
22	Pneumonia	8	8
23	Other respiratory diseases	3	3
24	Ulceration of stomach and duodenum	4	0
25	Diarrhœa (under two years)	0	2
26	Appendicitis	0	0
27	Other digestive diseases	2	5
28	Nephritis	4	3
29	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	0	0
30	Other maternal causes	0	0
31	Premature birth	1	1
32	Congenital malformations, Birth injuries and infantile diseases	3	0
33	Suicide	2	0
34	Road Traffic Accidents	4	2
35	Other violent causes	6	5
36	All other causes	21	20
	All Causes	176	178

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(i) Public Health Officers to the Local Authority.

Dr. W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Ldn., D.P.H. Camb., D.M.R.E. Camb., Medical Officer of Health (part time to your Authority but whole time to the work of M.O.H.)

Mr. F. Lindley, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (whole time). Cert. Meat Inspection.

Mr. D. T. Matthews, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Building Surveyor (whole time).

Mr. C. G. Carlton, General Assistant to Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

(ii) Laboratory Facilities.

(*a*) Examinations of pathological and bacteriological specimens have been made by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of 91 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

The following were the cases examined:—12 Diphtheria and 2 Typhoid.

Ambulance Facilities.

(*b*) *For Infectious Diseases.* A motor Ambulance is kept at the Oakley Isolation Hospital.

For Non-Infectious Diseases. A Public Ambulance is kept at the Bedford Fire Station, and is available for your District. Telephone: 2222.

Judging from the experience of previous years, the present arrangement appears to be quite adequate for the needs of the district. In the event of an extra ambulance being required in an emergency, there is an understanding with the neighbouring authorities that their ambulances would be available.

Nursing in the Home.

(*c*) The Bedfordshire County Nursing Association supply 14 nurses to 37 villages in your district. These nurses attend to maternity cases principally, but also to minor medical and surgical ailments. They are not allowed to attend to any disease of an infectious nature.

The nurses are supervised by Local Associations.

The salaries for these nurses are raised by voluntary contributions and by small fees which are charged to non-members requiring their services.

The following are the villages supplied:—

Sharnbrook, Souldrop and Knotting	Nurse Lamb
Felmersham, Pavenham and Radwell ...	Nurse Bamford
Podington, Wymington and Hinwick	Nurse Lane

Stevington and Bromham	Nurse Lockhart
Oakley and Clapham	Nurse Wilson
Milton Ernest, Bletsoe and Thurleigh ...	Nurse Maskey
Melchbourne, Yielden, Dean, Swineshead, Shelton and Riseley	Nurse Marshall
Cardington, Cople and Shortstown	Nurse Miller
Wootton	Nurse Dix
Kempston Rural	Nurse Minards
Stagsden	Nurse Prudden
Harrold, Carlton and Odell	Nurse H. Howells
Eaton Socon	Nurse Moore, S.R.N.
Keysoe, Bolnhurst, Little Staughton and Pertenhall	Nurse Longworth

Infectious Diseases. There is no provision made for the treatment of infectious diseases in the patient's own home. An Isolation Hospital for the treatment of these diseases is provided free of charge.

Midwives.

The employment and registration of Midwives is undertaken by the County Council.

The number of Midwives practising in your area is 16, inclusive of 10 employed by the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

(*d*) These are provided by the County Council.

(*e*)

Hospitals.

Hospital.	*Situation.*	*Purpose.*	*No. of Beds.*	*Management.*
Oakley Isolation ...	Clapham ...	Infectious Diseases ...	64 ...	... Joint Hospital Board.
Tuberculosis Sanatorium	Mogerhanger	Tuberculosis ...	84 ...	... C.C.
St. Peter's	Bedford ...	General Medical & Surgical, Maternity and Children ...	104 ...	... C.C.
Beds. County Hospital	Bedford ...	General Medical & Surgical, Maternity and Children ...	105 ...	... Voluntary
Children's Home ...	Kempston ...	Children ...	45 ...	... C.C.

Legislation in Force.

Adoptive Acts.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, Section I.

Bye-laws and Regulations.

New Streets and Buildings.
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, etc.
Slaughter Houses.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Water.

Rainfall at Great Barford.
Altitude:—126 feet above sea level.
Latitude:—52° 9′ N. Longitude:—0° 20′ W.

Month	Total	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours: Inches	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours: Date	No. of days with ·01 or more	·04 or more
January	1·71	·62	26th	8	6
February	1·23	·26	20th	9	8
March	2·38	·56	14th	10	9
April	1·35	·41	18th	13	10
May	·67	·14	22nd	9	7
June	·78	·38	9th	6	3
July	3·03	·52	25th	19	11
August	·11	·06	20th	3	2
September	·55	·28	19th	7	5
October	1·84	·49	16th	13	10
November	6·21	·84	2nd	17	16
December	1·49	·36	10th	14	10
Total	21·35			128	97

Rainfall at Wellingborough.

	At Bushfield Waterworks — *Altitude 286 feet, Gauge 8 in. diameter, Height of gauge above ground 11 inches, Latitude 52° 9′ N., Longitude 0° 43′ W.*		*At Swanspool Gardens* — *Altitude 168½ feet, Diameter of gauge 5 inches, Height of gauge above ground 12 inches, Latitude 52° 17′ 54″ N., Longitude 0° 41′23″ W.*	
	Inches	*Wet days*	*Inches*	*Wet days*
January	3·40	12	2·65	9
February	2·36	20	2·26	15
March	2·13	15	2·32	13
April	2·35	18	2·31	16
May	1·44	13	1·04	9
June	·61	6	·56	3
July	3·80	21	3·07	20
August	·13	4	·03	3
September	·77	10	·55	9
October	2·45	21	2·36	17
November	5·72	19	5·80	20
December	1·72	21	1·37	15
Total	26·88	180	24·32	149

Rainfall for previous ten years:—

Year	*Great Barford*	*Wellingborough Swanspool Gardens*	*England and Wales*
1931	21·52	24·42	43·2
1932	22·92	25·12	36·2
1933	16·93	17·45	29·3
1934	18·57	18·44	33·69
1935	24·57	27·79	40·14
1936	27·08	30·68	38·5
1937	29·93	30·41	39·1
1938	19·70	23·60	35·6
1939	25·51	30·51	40·3
1940	21·35	24·32	35·6

I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Arnold Whitchurch of Great Barford, and to Mr. R. Kilby of Wellingborough for supplying me with the information about the rainfalls of these districts.

The whole of the district is now supplied with good and wholesome water from public sources with the exception of some outlying farms.

I append the reports of the analysis of the three main supplies to your District, namely Bedford, Biggleswade and Birchmoor.

Report:

Bedford.—During 1940 the analyses of the finally treated water which are carried out weekly, showed that in all cases the water was up to the highest drinking water standard.

Biggleswade.—This is a first class sample, clear and bright in appearance and of a very satisfactory bacterial purity, indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) E. SUCKLING,

25.1.40. The Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Marston (Water from Birchmoor).—This is a very satisfactory sample. It is clear and bright in appearance and of a high degree of bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

11.3.41. (Signed) E. SUCKLING.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.
(Mr. F. Lindley.)

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water Supply Report.

PARISH	*Population 1931 Census*	*Length of Mains Miles*	*Yards*	*Premises supplied*	*No. of Services*	*No. of Standposts*
Great Barford	775	2	939	70	60	23
Little Barford	75	1	549	4	4	2
Biddenham	454	1	1634	132	131	—
Bletsoe	219	4	462	7	8	7
Bolnhurst and Keysoe...	594	8	1364	54	53	39
Bromham	442	5	984	242	186	—
Cardington	328	1	1040	95	63	—
Carlton and Chellington	418	5	351	21	21	12
Clapham	840	3	174	474	220	14
Colmworth	265	2	1500	27	26	10
Cople	405	1	1577	90	66	9
Dean and Shelton ...	378	3	1432	20	20	16
Eastcotts	1660	3	174	25	19	11
Eaton Socon	2240	14	832	257	174	52
Elstow	415	1	278	125	72	—
Felmersham	381	2	1663	16	16	14
Harrold	924	1	904	48	45	21
Kempston Rural ...	694	7	1643	196	161	21
Knotting and Souldrop..	275	4	40	23	19	9
Melchbourne and Yielden	310	5	676	15	15	12
Milton Ernest	340	4	414	14	14	8
Oakley	508	4	1126	93	79	20
Odell	226	3	425	17	16	9
Pavenham	344	2	1114	32	32	11
Pertenhall	183	2	295	13	13	6
Podington	425	4	82	56	50	7
Ravensden	326	5	128	54	51	14
Renhold	444	9	58	226	214	1
Riseley	528	3	1003	36	32	17
Roxton	449	5	898	56	37	20
Sharnbrook	718	6	432	90	85	21
Stagsden	455	2	48	45	41	15
Staughton Little ...	244	2	1189	19	19	12
Stevington	479	2	286	35	34	12
Stewartby	895	1	73	15	9	—
Swineshead	124	1	728	12	12	6
Thurleigh	479	6	1099	35	33	22
Turvey	863	2	1563	21	18	18
Wilden	344	6	1148	28	27	15
Willington	428	3	332	30	29	13
Wilshamstead	675	6	6	136	124	20
Wootton	692	5	1041	160	139	41
Wymington	518	1	592	86	43	4
(Sandy and Tempsford Biggleswade R.D.C.)	—	3	876	—	—	—
	22759	178	1374	3250	2530	584

1. (ii) Drainage and Sewerage Report.

In the Rural District 4,378 yards of open sewers have been thoroughly cleansed and repaired in various Parishes.

Clapham.

At the end of the year 366 properties had been connected to the sewer leaving eight still to be done.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No action was found to be necessary.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

A water carriage system is in operation in the Parishes of Clapham, Wymington and Stewartby, and in parts of the Parishes of Eaton Socon, Eastcotts and Sharnbrook. The rest of the district has Water Closets (to cesspools) and Earth Closets.

3. (ii) Public Cleansing.

In spite of certain war conditions, *e.g.*, black-out, petrol economy, and labour difficulties, a satisfactory cleansing service has been maintained.

On March 1st a system of salvage was inaugurated and upwards of 32 tons of paper have been collected by your Contractors up to the end of the year whilst 17 tons have been collected by various voluntary organisations.

3. (iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Report of Nuisances.

1.	Defective and/or Blocked Drainage	21
2.	Defective Sinks and Wastes	32
3.	Defective Gullies and Surrounds	2
4.	No provision for proper drainage	13
5.	Cesspool Nuisances	20
6.	Insanitary Privies	2
7.	Defective and Insanitary E.C.'s	79
8.	Defective W.C.'s	3
9.	Defective Wells	1
10.	Lack of or Defective Refuse Accommodation	25
11.	Offensive Accumulations	3
12.	Insanitary Ditches	8
13.	Defective Water Services	45
14.	Houses to re-decorate	12
15.	Blocked and/or Defective Sewers	4

16.	Houses not reasonably fit under Public Health and Housing Acts	527
	Defective Roofs	33
	Defective Floors (Boarded)	13
	Defective Floors (Brick)	10
	Damp and Defective Walls	22
	Defective Wall Plaster	18
	Defective Ceiling Plaster	36
	Defective Fences	3
	Defective Windows	51
	Defective Chimneys	16
	Defective Eaves Gutters	17
	Defective Paving Outside	9
	Defective Mantelpieces	3
	Defective Vent Pipes	1
	Defective Staircases	11
	Defective Grates	192
	Defective Outbuildings	1
	Defective Doors	31
	Defective Landings	9
	Insufficient Lighting and Ventilation	9
	Defective Coppers	50
	Defective Rainwater Pipes	9
	Defective Paths and Gates	4
	Low Rooms	9
	Defective Rainwater Butts	60
	Dirty Rooms	3
17.	Houses unfit for Human Habitation	10
18.	Houses inspected and recorded	18
19.	Cases of Infectious Disease	63
20.	Rooms Disinfected	78
21.	Schools Disinfected	1
22.	Infested Houses	4
23.	Rooms Disinfested	11
24.	Cowshed Nuisances	—
25.	Bakehouse Nuisances	—
26.	Slaughterhouse Nuisances	—
27.	Rat Infested Premises	1

Summary of Matters Dealt With.

	Inspections	*Defects or Nuisances found*
Houses, Inspection of, Public Health and Housing Acts	551	620
Public Health Act Inspections	582	270
Factories, etc.	16	—
Cowsheds and Dairies	52	—
Slaughterhouses and Retail Shops	16	—
Houses, Inspection of, under Overcrowding Provisions	10	—
	1227	890

Number of Notices served, Preliminary	38
,, ,, ,, ,, Statutory	14
Proceedings taken	0

Disinfection.

After all cases of notifiable infectious disease the rooms occupied by the patient are sealed off and disinfected with a dilute spray of formalin or by formaldehyde gas. 78 rooms were so treated in 1940. An inspection of the house and sanitary arrangements is made in each case and where necessary informal notices are served requiring any defects found to be remedied. One School has also been disinfected. The amount of bedding, clothing and other articles likely to retain infection, removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection, was:—

Mattresses	4
Beds	1
Pillows	9
Blankets	6
Covers	5
Other Articles	13

In addition one bed was also destroyed.

Petrol and Carbide Licences.

Number of Licences to store petrol and carbide granted during the year	90

3. (iv) Shops and Offices.

During the year seven inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1934, and in every case the provisions of the Act were complied with. In this Rural District 95 per cent of the shops are small shops and houses combined and these are managed without any assistants. With regard to Circular 1600, dealing with offices, no action has been found to be necessary.

3. (v) Camping Sites.

1.	Number of sites used for camping purposes	5
2.	Number of sites licensed by Local Authority	5
3.	Estimated maximum number of campers resident during the summer season	50

3. (vi) Smoke Abatement.

No action was found necessary during the year.

3. (vii) Swimming Baths and Pools.

(*a*) There are no public baths in the area.

(*b*) In Stewartby there is a privately owned swimming bath.

The River Ouse runs through the district and bathing takes place along the banks in many Parishes.

3. (viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1.	No. of Council Houses infested	0
	No. of other houses infested	2
	No. of houses disinfested	2

2. Methods employed:
Skirting picture rails, etc., loosened and sprayed with Zaldecide. Blow Lamp is used in addition for eggs and finally fumigation carried out using Cescones. The above operations are repeated after several days.

3. Careful inspection of belongings of prospective tenants is made prior to occupation of new house.

4. Disinfestation carried out by Local Authority free.

5. Visits are made to ensure that the premises are being kept in a clean condition.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Building and Plans Report.

Number of Plans approved during the year		44
Number of Houses	1	
,, ,, Additions and Alterations	20	
,, ,, Garages	5	
,, ,, Offices and Outbuildings	2	
,, ,, Re-drainage Schemes	9	
,, ,, Removals to New Site	1	
,, ,, Industrial Premises	3	
,, ,, Farm Buildings	3	
Number of Houses erected by Private Enterprise during the year		4
Number of Inspections in connection with foundations ...		7
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, D.P.C.'s		14
,, ,, Intermediate Inspections		88
,, ,, Inspections of drains and testing		52
,, ,, Final Inspections		22
,, ,, Samples taken		1

Under the various Housing Acts, 488 Houses have been erected by this Council and the late Eaton Socon Rural District Council.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1)	(*a*) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	497
	(*b*) Number of inspections for the purpose	551
(2)	(*a*) Number of Dwelling Houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing consolidated Regulations, 1925	18
	(*b*) Number of inspections for the purpose	66
(3)	Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4)	Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	8

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

(1)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	8

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(*a*)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:	
	(*a*) By Owners	Nil
	(*b*) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(*b*)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts	Nil
(*c*)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
	(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
(*d*)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ...	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

Owing to war conditions and to this being a Reception Area, temporary overcrowding exists in some houses.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(*a*) Milk Supply.

Parishes	*Producers & Retailers*	*Producers*	*Retail Purveyors*	*Total*
Great Barford	4 ...	2 ...	1 ...	7
Little Barford	1 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1
Biddenham	0 ...	3 ...	1 ...	4
Bletsoe	2 ...	0 ...	0 ...	2
Bolnhurst and Keysoe ...	9 ...	7 ...	0 ...	16
Bromham	2 ...	2 ...	2 ...	6
Cardington	2 ...	0 ...	0 ...	2
Carlton and Chellington..	8 ...	3 ...	0 ...	11
Clapham	1 ...	0 ...	0 ...	1
Colmworth	1 ...	2 ...	0 ...	3
Cople	2 ...	0 ...	0 ...	2
Dean and Shelton ...	6 ...	0 ...	0 ...	6
Eastcotts	2 ...	4 ...	1 ...	7
Eaton Socon	5 ...	2 ...	1 ...	8
Elstow	2 ...	5 ...	0 ...	7
Felmersham	7 ...	1 ...	0 ...	8
Harrold	1 ...	2 ...	1 ...	4
Kempston Rural ...	5 ...	9 ...	2 ...	16
Knotting and Souldrop ..	3 ...	3 ...	0 ...	6
Melchbourne and Yielden	3 ...	2 ...	0 ...	5
Milton Ernest	1 ...	2 ...	2 ...	5
Oakley	2 ...	1 ...	0 ...	3
Odell	0 ...	2 ...	0 ...	2
Pavenham	4 ...	1 ...	0 ...	5
Pertenhall	6 ...	1 ...	0 ...	7
Podington	6 ...	1 ...	0 ...	7
Ravensden	4 ...	4 ...	0 ...	8
Renhold	6 ...	7 ...	1 ...	14
Riseley	6 ...	1 ...	0 ...	7
Roxton	3 ...	0 ...	0 ...	3
Sharnbrook	3 ...	2 ...	0 ...	5
Stagsden	3 ...	3 ...	0 ...	6
Little Staughton ...	3 ...	3 ...	0 ...	6
Stevington	3 ...	2 ...	0 ...	5
Stewartby	1 ...	3 ...	0 ...	4
Swineshead	3 ...	0 ...	0 ...	3
Thurleigh	5 ...	4 ...	0 ...	9
Turvey	3 ...	4 ...	0 ...	7
Wilden	3 ...	2 ...	1 ...	6
Willington	0 ...	0 ...	1 ...	1
Wilstead	5 ...	8 ...	2 ...	15
Wootton	6 ...	3 ...	1 ...	10
Wymington	2 ...	3 ...	0 ...	5
	144	104	17	265

Number of Persons registered since 1900	651
,, ,, ,, now carrying on the trade	265
,, ,, ,, registered during the year	7
Licence to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
,, ,, ,, Accredited Milk	48
,, ,, sell Pasteurised Milk	3
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	52
Estimated number of Dairy Cows	2420

(*b*) Meat Inspection.

Conditions of Slaughter-houses	Good
Number of Slaughter-houses	18

Eighteen Slaughter-houses were licensed under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and of these, 16 have retail shops attached. There is also one separate retail shop in the Parish of Wilstead.

Since the 15th January, 1940, the slaughter of animals and distribution of meat has been under the direct control of the Ministry of Food. As a result, no regular slaughtering is done in the 18 Slaughter-houses within the District.

Inspection of all meat distributed in the District is carried out at the central Slaughter-houses in the Borough of Bedford.

Other Foods.

Number of Bakehouses	24
Want of Limewashing	—

FACTORIES.

1. Inspection of Factories.

Premises	*Inspections*	*Number of Written Notices*	*Occupiers Prosecuted*
Factories with mechanical power ...	5	—	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	10	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers premises)	1	—	—
	16	—	—

2. Defects Found in Factories.

Particu ars	*Defects found*	*Defects remedied*	*Referred to H.M. Inspector*
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) insufficient	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—
	—	—	—

There is no outwork in unwholesome premises.

(Signed) F. LINDLEY,
M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector,
Bedford Rural District Council.

The Sanitation and Water Supply of Elementary Schools.

School	Church of England or Council	Average Number of Pupils on Roll	Average Attendance	Type of Closet	Accommodation Boys	Accommodation Girls	Accommodation Infants	Disposal Excreta	Water
Biddenham ..	C.E.	68	56	W.C.	1	2	1	Sewer	Main supply
Bletsoe ...	C.E.	49	46	Pail	1	1	2	Removed 5 times weekly	Main supply outside
Bolnhurst ...	C.	18	14	Pail	1	1	0	Drying Sheds once weekly	Main supply
Bromham ...	C.E.	109	97	Pail	2	2		Removed once weekly	Main at Schoolhouse
Cardington ..	C.	324	298	Pail	2	2	1	Drying Sheds once weekly	Main supply
Carlton ...	C.E.	57	55	Pail	2	2	0	Removed weekly	Well at Schoolhouse
Clapham ...	C.E.	212	177	W.C.	3	4	0	Sewer	Main supply
Colmworth ..	C.E.	53	40	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Cople ...	C.	34	31	Pail	1	1	1	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Dean ...	C.	36	34	Pail	2	1	1	Twice weekly	Main supply
Eastcotts ...	C.	89	84	Pail	3	3		Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Eaton Socon.	C.	332	201	Pail	2	5	4	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Elstow ...	C.	170	148	W.C.	3	7	2	Sewer	Main supply
Felmersham .	C.	55	48	Pail	1	1	1	Drying Shed weekly	Main supply
Gt. Barford .	C.	134	114	Pail	2	2	1	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main supply
Harrold (Senior)	C.	63	53	W.C.	4	8	0	Sewer	Main supply
Harrold (Junior)	C.	83	69	W.C.	3	3	2	Sewer	Main supply
Kempston (Rural)	C.	103	88	Pail	2	3	0	Removed 7 times weekly	Taps from main
L. Staughton	C.	50	45	Pail	2	1	1	Removed weekly	Main supply
L. Barford ...	C.	30	28	Pail	1	2	0	Removed weekly	None on premises
Keysoe ...	C.	101	81	Pail	2	2	1	Twice weekly	Main supply
Melchbourne	C.	33	29	Pail	1	1	0	Twice weekly	Main supply
Milton Ernest	C.E.	77	70	Pail	2	3		Removed thrice weekly	Main supply
Oakley ...	C.	51	48	W.C.	1	1	1	Hand-flushed to cesspool	Main supply

The Sanitation and Water Supply of Elementary Schools—*continued.*

School	*Church of England or Council*	*Average Number of Pupils on Roll*	*Average Attendance*	*Type of Closet*	*Accommodation*			*Disposal Excreta*	*Water*
					Boys	*Girls*	*Infants*		
Odell ...	C.E.	28	24	Pail	1	1	1	Removed weekly	Nil
Pavenham ...	C.	55	45	Pail	1	1	1	Removed weekly	Main supply
Pertenhall ...	C.E.	23	19	Pail	2	1	1	Buried once a week	Pump
Podington ...	C.E.	68	60	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Ravensden ..	C.E.	42	33	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice a week	None on premises
Renhold ...	C.E.	75	74	Pail	2	2	0	Removed 2-3 times weekly	Main supply ...
Riseley ...	C.E.	114	105	Pail	2	3	1	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Roxton ...	C.E.	108	82	Pail	1	1	1	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Sharnbrook ..	C.	131	111	Pail	2	2	1	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Swineshead ..	C.	20	18	Pail	1	3	0	Removed twice a week	Main supply
Souldrop ...	C.	50	31	Pail	2		2	Drying Shed Removed daily	Main supply
Stagsden ...	C.E.	93	80	Pail	4	4	0	Removed once weekly	Main supply
Stevington ...	C.	98	89	W.C.	3		5	Sewer	Main supply
Stewartby (Senior)	C.	64	59	W.C.	4	10	0	Sewer	Main supply
Stewartby (Junior)	C.	102	93	W.C.	3	4	2	Sewer	Main supply
Thurleigh ...	C.	88	80	Pail	3		3	Removed twice weekly	Main supply
Turvey ... (Junior)	C.E.	95	85	Pail	2	4	4	Removed weekly	Main supply
Wilden ...	C.E.	55	48	Pail	1	1	2	Removed thrice weekly	Main supply
Willington ...	C.	85	74	W.C.	1	1	2	Hand-flushed to cesspool	Main supply
Wilstead (Mixed)	C.E.	82	70	Pail	2	3	0	Removed weekly	Main supply
Wilstead (Infants)	C.E.	32	28	Pail	0	0	3	Removed weekly	Nil
Wootton ... (Mixed)	C.	158	143	Pail	2	5	0	Drying Shed twice weekly	Main supply
Wootton (Infants)	C.	78	68	Pail	0	0	6	Drying Shed weekly	Main supply
Wymington	C.E.	80	74	W.C.	2	3	0	Sewer	Main supply
Yelden ...	C.	23	19	Pail	1	1	1	Once weekly	Pump

School Closures.

No school was closed for the year under review.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Patients suffering from notifiable infectious diseases are treated at the Oakley Isolation Hospital, which is now administered by a Joint Hospital Board, comprised of members from the Bedford Borough Council, Bedford Rural District Council, and from the Kempston Urban District Council.

The accommodation is now 64 beds, allowing 2,000 square feet floor space for each bed and a cubical ward of eight beds.

Oakley Isolation Hospital.

Patients in hospital on January 1st, 1940	5
Scarlet Fever	4
Diphtheria	0
Typhoid Fever	0
Chicken Pox	1
Admissions during the year	75
Scarlet Fever	41
Diphtheria	8
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	4
Erysipelas	4
Paratyphoid	3
Measles	8
Rubella	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Chicken Pox	1
Mumps	1
Discharges	75
Scarlet Fever	40
Diphtheria	8
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2
Erysipelas	5
Paratyphoid	3
Measles	6
Rubella	4
Chicken Pox	2
Mumps	1

Deaths	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1
Measles	1
Patients in hospital on December 31st, 1940	8
Scarlet Fever	5
Diphtheria	0
Other cases	0
Erysipelas	1
Measles	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1

Small Pox.

I am glad to report that there have been no cases notified.

Scarlet Fever.

Fifty-four cases have been notified; 42 of these cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital. This is considerably less than last year when 124 cases were notified. The cases were distributed over 22 parishes. One death occurred.

Diphtheria.

Twelve cases occurred, ten of them were treated in Hospital. Two deaths were reported.

Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria.

On December 7th, 1940, the Ministry of Health issued Circular 2230 which sanctions a scheme for immunising all children of school age and others between one and five years. Under this I have arranged for the immunisation of a large number of school children and in my next year's Annual Report I shall be able to give fuller particulars.

Pneumonia.

Fifty cases were notified from 20 parishes: 19 from the parish of Cardington but many of these were members of the Royal Air Force. Sixteen deaths were registered.

Erysipelas.

Eight cases notified. No deaths were recorded.

Whooping Cough.

Thirty cases were reported. One death occurred.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two cases were notified—both recovered.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases were notified. Both recovered.

Paratyphoid Fever.

Three cases occurred, no deaths. These cases were traced to some iced cream buns that had caused similar cases in the adjoining County.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

Eight cases notified, all treated in the Isolation Hospital but one died.

Measles.

Five hundred and eleven cases were notified: they came from 39 parishes. The following villages were the biggest sufferers, namely:—

Sharnbrook	29	cases
Eaton Socon	21	,,
Carlton	33	,,
Clapham	50	,,
Wilstead	29	,,
Harrold	39	,,
Stewartby	20	,,
Milton Ernest	32	,,
Great Barford	47	,,
Willington	22	,,

Encephalitis Lethargica.

One case was notified, she was treated in Hospital but succumbed.

Malaria.

Four cases reported. These occurred among the Royal Air Force at Cardington; all had contracted it abroad.

Chicken Pox.

This is a non-notifiable disease.

There have been epidemics in the parishes of Milton Ernest, Eastcotts, Stevington, Bromham, Wootton, Wymington, Yielden and Little Barford.

Mumps.

This is also a non-notifiable disease.

Parishes have suffered from epidemics, namely: Biddenham, Riseley, Cardington, Clapham, Willington, Carlton, Ravensden and Renhold.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

	Scarlet Fever	*Diphtheria*	*Pneumonia*	*Erysipelas*	*Whooping Cough*	*Ophthalmia Neonatorum*	*Puerperal Pyrexia*	*Paratyphoid*	*Cerebro Spinal Fever*	*Measles*	*Encephalitis Lethargica*	*Malaria*
Total cases notified ...	54	12	50	8	30	2	2	3	8	511	1	4
Cases admitted to Hospital	42	10	8	4	—	—	1	3	7	2	1	—
Total deaths ...	1	2	16	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Cases under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	5	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 1-2 years...	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	16	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 2-3 years...	1	—	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	32	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 3-4 years...	2	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	37	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 4-5 years...	2	1	1	—	5	—	—	—	1	29	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 5-10 years	18	2	—	—	10	—	—	—	1	210	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 10-15 years	10	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	86	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 15-20 years	2	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	36	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 20-35 years	10	3	21	1	—	—	1	2	3	47	—	3
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 35-45 years	2	—	7	3	—	—	1	—	1	6	—	1
Deaths ,, ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cases from 45-65 years	5	—	6	4	—	—	—	1	—	5	1	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases from 65 upwards	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis).

Villages	*Scarlet Fever*	*Diphtheria*	*Pneumonia*	*Erysipelas*	*Puerperal Pyrexia*	*Opthalmic Neonatorum*	*Measles*	*Cerebro Spinal Fever*	*Whooping Cough*	*Paratyphoid*	*Encephalitis Lethargica*	*Malaria*
Cardington ...	6	1	19	1	—	—	18	5	—	—	—	4
Oakley	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Elstow	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—
Sharnbrook ...	1	—	2	—	—	1	29	—	4	—	—	—
Eaton Socon ...	3	2	1	2	—	1	21	—	2	—	—	—
Riseley	2	1	1	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	—
Eastcotts	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Bletsoe	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Bromham ...	1	—	5	1	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—
Turvey	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carlton	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	—	—	—
Yielden	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Wootton	7	1	2	3	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	—
Kempston ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Clapham	8	—	2	—	—	—	50	—	1	1	—	—
Knotting Green ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Stevington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wilstead	3	—	1	—	—	—	29	—	5	—	—	—
Harrold	—	1	—	—	—	—	39	—	—	—	1	—
Biddenham ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Wymington ...	1	—	3	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
Stewartby ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—
Felmersham ...	—	2	1	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—
Renhold	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—
Thurleigh ...	—	1	2	—	—	—	9	—	5	—	—	—
Melchbourne ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
Souldrop	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Milton Ernest ...	1	—	4	—	—	—	32	—	—	—	—	—
Pavenham ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Stagsden	—	—	1	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	—
Odell	—	1	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
Swineshead ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Keysoe	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ravensden ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dean	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Podington ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colmworth ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Gt. Barford ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	47	—	10	—	—	—
Willington ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	1	—	—	—
Roxton	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Cople	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Chellington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Wilden	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bolnhurst ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pertenhall ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	54	12	50	8	2	2	511	8	30	3	1	4

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality.

Villages.	New Cases. Pulmonary. M	New Cases. Pulmonary. F	New Cases. Non-Pulmonary. M	New Cases. Non-Pulmonary. F	Deaths. Pulmonary. M	Deaths. Pulmonary. F	Deaths. Non-Pulmonary. M	Deaths. Non-Pulmonary. F
Shelton	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wootton	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Harrold	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Kempston	1	—	1	1+1*	—	—	—	—
Souldrop	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bletsoe	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eaton Socon	—	1*	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sharnbrook	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yielden	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Carlton	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wilstead	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Wymington	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
Pavenham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keysoe	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cardington	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Clapham	—	2	—	1	1	1	1	—
Bromham	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Roxton	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	5	8+1*	4	3+1*	4	4	4	0

* Renotification.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality.

Age Period.	New Cases. Pulmonary. M	New Cases. Pulmonary. F	New Cases. Non-Pulmonary. M	New Cases. Non-Pulmonary. F	Deaths. Pulmonary. M	Deaths. Pulmonary. F	Deaths. Non-Pulmonary. M	Deaths. Non-Pulmonary. F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year to 5 years ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 years to 10 years ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
10 ,, 15 ,, ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
15 ,, 20 ,, ...	—	—	—	1+1*	—	—	1	—
20 ,, 25 ,, ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
25 ,, 35 ,, ...	—	4	—	—	2	1	—	—
35 ,, 45 ,, ...	2	2	—	1	—	3	—	—
45 ,, 55 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 ,, 65 ,, ...	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	—
65 years and over ...	—	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	8+1*	4	3+1*	4	4	4	0

* Renotification.

Cancer.

There have been 46 deaths out of 354 from all causes, of these 20 were males and 26 females.

The various systems affected and the ages of each sex at death are as follows:—

Males.

5	Cancer cases of œsophagus	ages 71, 68, 78, 79, 58
2	,, ,, ,, Stomach and Duodenum	ages 65, 64
13	,, ,, ,, other sites	ages 79, 71, 75, 83, 55, 66, 67, 35, 46, 70, 69, 74, 67

Females.

2	Cancer cases of Uterus	ages 95, 49
4	,, ,, ,, Stomach and Duodenum ...	ages 83, 72, 72, 58
3	,, ,, ,, Breast	ages 74, 40, 74
17	,, ,, ,, other sites	ages 67, 73, 82, 72, 74, 45, 77, 78, 59, 61, 71, 60, 45, 70, 58, 67, 73

Prevention of Blindness.

No action was necessary under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, and Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

No necessity for any action under these regulations arose during the year under review.

In Conclusion.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking your Council for their consideration and support, also your clerk, Mr. Townsend, for his ready assistance and advice, and your Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. Lindley, for his valuable help.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. K. PARBURY,

M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. Lond.),
D.P.H. (Camb.), D.M.R.E. (Camb.).

December, 1941.